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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISIT TO CHINA

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Editorial Quotes  
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PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISIT TO CHINA

a. "China should have the ability to shape the U.S." (pg 14)

The official Communist Party international news publication Global Times (Huanqiu Shibao)(11/19)(pg 14): "During his visit to Asia, President Obama has shown frankness, wisdom and a desire to move forward as a young American leader. Suddenly confronted with a United States that has adopted a milder attitude, China should note several things. First, China should not become cocky over the fact that after the financial crisis the world is praising China's economic model and criticizing the U.S. model. Second, China should use this moment to look for diplomatic opportunities. China always responded to American political signals rather than take the initiative to provide advice in dealing with the United States. In the future, China should shift its diplomatic focus to the American people in the U.S., leading them to give up hostility and vigilance against China and understand China better. And third, China should be sober enough to see the limits of the changes in U.S. diplomacy. That U.S. diplomacy is a mixture of ideology and dealing from strength will not change. President Obama said in Shanghai that American students coming to study in China will greatly increase, to 100,000. However, currently there are still no relevant official regulations, or official fund, to guarantee that in the United States. It would be a historical progress if the U.S. federal or state government could take effective measures to support the issue. In this way, 'mutual study and common progress,' proposed by the U.S. Ambassador to China, looks like it may be about to be realized."

b. "Wen Jiabao: China opposes a 'G2'"

The Shanghai-based Shanghai Media Group (SMG) publication, China Business News (Diyi Caijing)(11/19)(pg A3): "Although Obama is trying to promote Sino-American cooperation, China clearly does not support the concept of a 'G2.' Premier Wen Jiabao talked about the reasons: first, China is a developing country with a large population and still has a long way to become modernized; second, China advocates independent diplomacy and will not ally itself with any country; and third, China insists that all countries should together make decisions on world's affairs, instead of one or two countries. Shi Yinhong, the Director of Renmin University's Institute of International Relations, said that a lot of Americans are talking about a 'G2,' which is part of the United States' strategy to get China to do things in accordance with the recommendations of the United States on financial, economic and international security issues. However, the U.S. emphasis on China, reflected by the concept of a G2, is welcomed. China will not sacrifice relations with other countries for its relations with the United States. China will for sure promote diplomacy of its own, a process in which the United States is very important."

c. "The invisible concerns of building a China-U.S. partnership"

The China Radio International sponsored newspaper World News Journal (Shijie Xinwenbao)(11/19)(pg 2): "The U.S.-China joint statement has shown an obvious characteristic of seeking common ground while accepting existing differences. Experts believe that the statement is a chance for the U.S. to adapt to the era and shows the U.S.'s temporarily positive attitude about China's rise. Both countries have honestly stated their stances on how to deal with each other's core interests. On issues of China's core interests, like the Taiwan issue and trade protectionism, since China has clearly made its stance, the bilateral frictions on these issues will decrease in the future. However, concerning core interests of the United States, the frictions will increase. In contrast to China, the United States is unwilling to talk clearly about its core interests because they are difficult to talk about. They are also vague and mutable. Given the recent global changes, it is good for the world that China and the United States have affirmed their partnership to jointly address global challenges. We hope, though, that this partnership can become more practical."

d. "The common language of partners"

The official Xinhua News Agency international news publication International Herald Leader (Guoji Xianqu Daobao)(11/19)(pg 10): "Cooperation in more than 20 fields and about 45 times citing 'both sides agree' in the U.S.-China joint statement has shown that U.S.-China relations, after 37 years of development, are at a critical time of deep cooperation. A partnership to deal with common challenges - a new phrase to describe new U.S.-China relations - reflects the common hope of both countries. Sino-U.S. relations are definitely not characteristic of the 'beautiful and moderate' relations between big powers. Although Obama's visit to

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China ended in a cheer, the difficult task of addressing U.S. domestic concerns and convincing the U.S. public of the importance of Sino-U.S. relations is still ahead. It is not easy for a President with limited diplomatic experience. Obama's visit to China is just a beginning."

HUNTSMAN